



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONFUSION MOUNTS; MORE FOODS ADDED TO PET FOOD RECALL LIST *County Vet Explains How to Know What's Safe to Feed Your Pet*

With all of the additions to the pet food recall list, pet owners really need to pay close attention to news media and continue to monitor pet food Web sites for additional recalls, said Dr. Mike Harrod, County Public Health Veterinarian.

"If a pet owner is in doubt, they should look at the product's ingredients listed on the label. Pet owners should check to see if the food contains wheat gluten, the common ingredient in all of the recalled products that could be contaminated," said Dr. Harrod.

For a complete list of recalled pet food, visit the County Veterinarian's Web site at www.sdcountryvet.org.

Menu Foods now includes almost 100 brands and labels on their recall list, but they do not list recalled products manufactured by other companies. Del Monte just recalled some of their treat products on Monday, April 2 and Hill's Pet Nutrition and Purina have also recently added new products to the recall.

Those items include Hill's "Prescription Diet m/d Feline Dry Food," Purina's Alpo Brand "Prime Cuts in Gravy" canned dog food, and several types of wet dog food, dog snacks and pet treats made by Del Monte.

On Friday, March 30, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced they had identified melamine; a substance used as a fertilizer in Asia and in the production of plastics in the United States, in tested samples of recalled pet food from Menu Foods. The substance was also identified in urine and tissue samples taken from sickened cats and from the kidney of one cat that had eaten the recalled food.

After tests conducted by the FDA, Cornell University and a Menu Foods' client all identified melamine, the FDA is no longer focusing on aminopterin, a rat poison.

In an unrelated incident involving suspected salmonella contamination, Eight in One Inc., a division of United Pet Group Inc, is issuing a nationwide recall of dog, cat and ferret treats that could be contaminated with salmonella. The bacteria could infect both animals and people handling the food. Packages that could be affected by salmonella contamination include of Dingo Chick'N Jerky, Dingo Kitty Chicken Jerky and Dingo Ferret Chicken Jerky. The treats were sold around the country at Target, PetSmart and other stores. The company asks consumers to throw away unused portions of the jerky treats. To obtain a refund, call (888) 232-9889.

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